1: Gurdon E-4, 5 (no date) 1907 AR7 Khasi AR7

301 This stone is apparently some rough gem which may be picked
up by the Lyngams in the river beds. A rich man amongst
536 them, however, is one who possesses a number of metal gongs,
534 which they call *wiang*. For these they pay very high prices.
414 Rs. 100 being quite a moderate sum for one of them. Being
curious to see one of these gongs, I asked a *sirdar*, or
head-man, to show me one. He replied that he would
do so, but it would take time, as he always buried his
[534] gongs in the jungle for fear of thieves. Next morning
he brought me a gong of bell metal, with carvings of
animals engraved thereon. The gong when struck gave out a
rich deep note like that of Burmese or Thibetan gongs. These
gongs have a regular currency in this part of the hills, and
represent to the Lyngams "Bank of England" notes. It
would be interesting to try to ascertain what is their history,
for no one in the Lyngam country makes them in these days.
Is it possible that the Garos brought them with them when
534 they migrated from Thibet? The gongs are well known in the
622 Garo Hills, and I hear that when a *nokma*, or head-man, there
778 dies his corpse is laid out upon them. They thus possess also
an element of sanctity, besides being valuable for what they
will fetch to the Garos or Lyngams. We may hope to hear
more about them in Captain Playfair's account of the Garos.

209 The Lyngams do not tattoo. Their weapons are the large-
411 headed Garo spear, the dao, and the shield. They do not usually
243 carry bows and arrows, although there are some who possess
them. They are by occupation cultivators. They sow two
kinds of hill rice, red and white, on the hill-sides. They have
no wet paddy cultivation, and they do not cultivate in terraces
like the Nagas. They burn the jungle about February, after
cutting down some of the trees and clearing away some of the
debris, and then sow the paddy broadcast, without cultivating
the ground in any way. They also cultivate millet and *Job's*-
tears in the same way. With the paddy shallow are sown the
241 first year. The egg plant, brinjal, ginger, turmeric, and sweet
231 potatoes of several varieties are grown by them in a similar
219 manner. Those that wear the leaf-cover plant *Sandoricum*
Indicum (Hindi *sohal dal*) in the forest clearings, and wear the leaves
thereon. Some of these people, however, are prohibited by a

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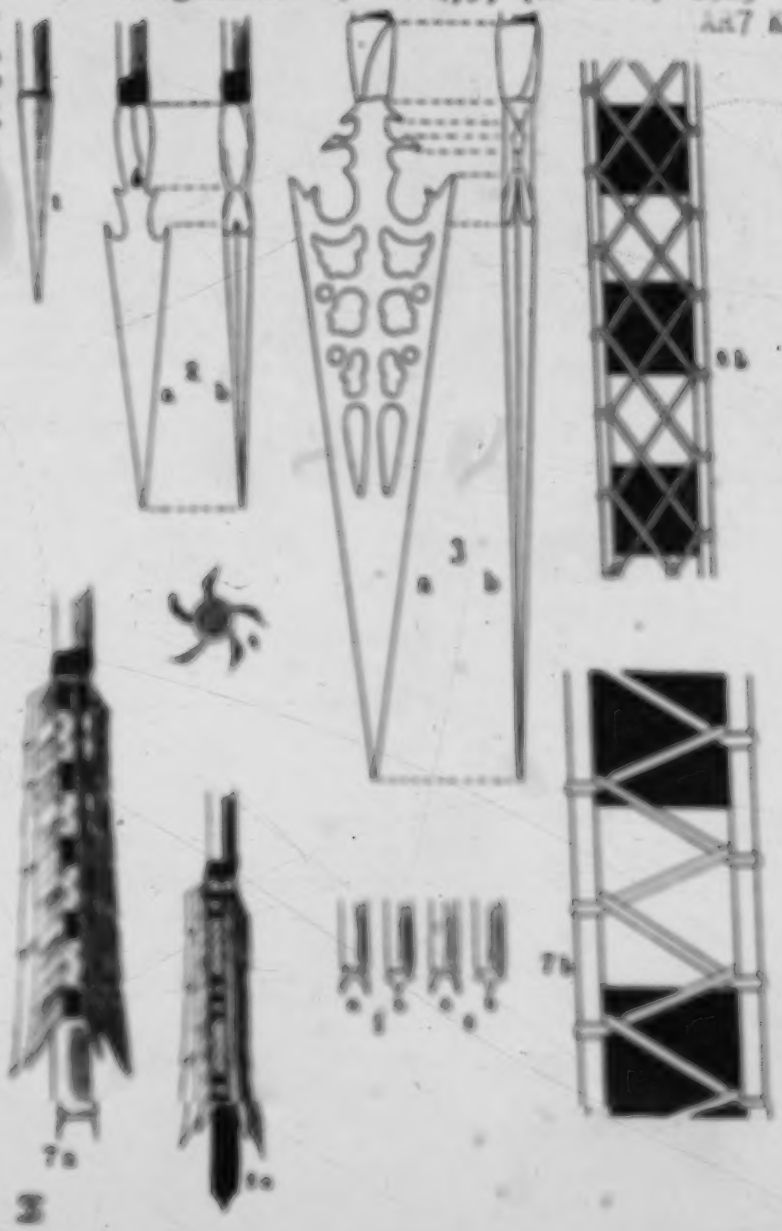

Fig. 2

Arrow Tips

411
326 The arrow tips are made of iron in the village smithies. The tips of the hunting arrow ('nam-pliang) are flat, raised a little towards the middle and have smooth or toothed edges and two or more barbs (shaped like a spear). Length of the tip is about 9 to 15 centimeters. Beautiful wrought iron arrow tips with pierced designs are also made. (13)

[531]

13. Illustration II, figs. 3a, 3b.

[526] The tips of the arrows used for sport ('nam-sop) are round and conical. Length is about 5 to 6 centimeters.

The spear-shaped arrow tips are poisoned with (ka bih) poison which the Khasi obtain from the tuber of a plant (aconitum ferox Wallich, aconite).

Attaching the Arrow Tips.

411 The arrow tips are attached in two ways:

1. either the shaft of the arrow is pointed in front and the arrow tip, which is hollow inside, is placed on it-both are joined with sealing wax;

2. or there is a separate shell of copper which connects the arrow tip with the shaft. Sealing wax is not used, since the shell acts as a clamp. Length of the shell is about 1.5 centimeters.

The Notch of the Arrow

At the tip of the opposite end a notch is cut in every arrow. The arrow is taken from a whole cane-long or igrâ (kind of bamboo) in

411 Adl. Radial sewn feathering is the common
287 method. Feathers are taken from geese, cranes, cormorans, Buluwar vultures and the horn bird. The feathers of the carrion vultures are used less often as they are brittle. The feathers are split along the quill (shaft), cut on the top and on the bottom and sewn onto the base. At one end the feathers are 4 millimeters wide, on the other end (towards the notch) 8 millimeters wide. The split quill is 5 centimeters, the outer flags of the feathers 7 to 8 centimeters.

411 The base consists of tinfoil and is divi-
287 ded variously. A strip of tinfoil (not colored)
•531 alternate with a strip of tinfoil colored red. Thus thebases have a red tinfoil strip in the middle ad two red ones at each end. Or there are thre in the middle and at the ends two or three re strips of tinfoil. The space in between isfilled out with uncolored tinfoil (silver) The red strips of tinfoil are two millimetrs wide. (18)

18. Illustretion II, fig. 6a.

There are also bases of leather which is cut veryfine and gilded. As in the examples just meniomed red strips of tinfoil alternate with thebase that is not colored; similarly, uncolore strips of leather alternate with the gilded bae.. The uncolored strips of leather are 7 millimeters wide. (19)

19. Illustretion II, fig. 7a.

The feathers which have been cut properly are now sewn onto the bases with uncolored natural silk, in a spiral form, (20), although

20. Illustretion II, fig. 4

lightly. The stitches are made exactly and evenly throughout. Figures 7b and 8b of illustration II, though greatly enlarged show how the silken threads are put on. With a base 5 centimeters long the number of stitches is 22 to 24, with bases of 7.5 the number of stitches is 29 to 31. 411 237 531

The feathers are at right angles to the split quill on the shaft and are sewn on five together, more rarely three together.

On the underside of the base (towards the tip of the arrow) black colored pitch is smeared, to unite the cut off feather ends to the shaft of the arrow. (21)

21. Illustration II, figs. 7a, 8a.

[611] Ad. 2. Tied tangential feathering is only used still on children's arrows ('nam-phiah). A completely uncut feather is fastened lengthwise on the end of the arrow by silk or bast and the join is smeared with pitch. 411 237

Hunting arrows and arrows for sport are also used unfeathered (hunting arrows especially in the neighborhood of Lamin) and are then simply called 'nam, but if they are feathered they are called 'nam-pur. 411 526

The target is made of the soft wood of a root and is called ka soh pdung by the Khasi. A piece of wood about 8 to 10 centimeters wide and 50 centimeters long is cut from the root, smoothed on the front side and pointed somewhat towards the ground, so that the whole thing resembles a relatively wide but short lath. This target is set up by putting the somewhat pointed end into the earth and placing two bamboo sticks behind as braces, so that the target cannot be tipped

10:Clarke U-3 (no date)1874 AR7 Khasi AR7

316 were all found within 200 yards of where they now stand, as may be inferred from the stray stone at about that distance from Stonehenge and not made use of: the small stones were probably brought a considerable distance from the greensand area in the north of the county.

316 493 8. In the setting up of these monuments the Khasis at the present day use only the simplest and most direct mechanical means. For transporting a big stone wooden rollers are placed beneath it and the stone is then drawn by a large number of men harnessed to it by rattan ropes. To set one of the slabs upright, one end is slipped into a hole dug 1-3 feet in the ground, while the other end is tugged by similar ropes. For putting one stone upon another, as in a horizontal slab monument, it is drawn up a sloping stage of bamboo, but if the slab be of great weight, a slope of earth must be constructed, up which it may be pulled. These are the present Khasi methods, and it is, of course, highly probable that similar resources were employed in ancient times. I add a more particular account of some of the larger monuments.

281 9. The monument on the Government main road, about six miles north of Cherra, not far from the village of Lirinow, stands on sheets of Cherra sandstone, out of which the slabs were cut. The tallest stones were about fifteen feet out of the ground. The five stones on the left-hand side (west) of the road were erected when I first visited the hills. The five stones on the right-hand side were erected about four years ago, the family to whom the monument belongs having determined on such an addition. The two portions form one indivisible monument, and exactly correspond, the stones being accurately worked and rounded. The two top-knots are seen in several other monuments, but must, I think, be held proof always of a very late date for their erection. At the Mawmai monument a large rosette is carved on the face of the middle of the big central upright slab, which is also I presume modern work.

•[59] 10. The monument at Mamloo village. This is, perhaps, the monument in all the hills which exhibits the largest slabs of Cherra sandstone. It stands on sheets of the same rock and there can be little doubt that the slabs were cut on the spot. It is of the (less usual) binary type.

11. The monuments at Rambrai in the west of Khasi-land. These consist of numerous horizontal and vertical slabs of no great size, the upright slabs being 4-8 feet out of the ground, but remarkable for their arrangement on a long open slope outside the village. The monuments stand all close together, reflected as in a chess-board, so that it is not easy to separate